IN SENATE.

Samediately after the Journal of Thursday was read Mr. PEARCE, of Maryland, asked leave to submit the

seed, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instruct and the report upon the expediency of making suitable acknowleading and presenting testimonials to the commanders
and crews of the British ship Three Bells, the American
biancuse Kilby, and the ship Antarctic, for the humanity and
gallantry displayed in the rescue of the surviving others,
passengers, and crew of the steamship San Francisco.

Mr. PEARCE said : Mr. President, I beg leave to say : cory few words upon the subject of the resolution. The represent catastrophe of the steamship San Francisco was so mediately, and an other is expected in this city to ingut who can give that information. That is my object; but who can give that information. That is my object; but identify of suffering; they were so connected with the Senator from Maryland. Let that go to the committee; they will have enough to do, and I hope, as I am sure such bold, generous, and persevering humanity, that the stration seems to me to demand acknowledgments on the part of the Government which are seldom made. The select steamship was in the employment of the Government. The persons rescued were, for the most part, our For nearly or quite two weeks their sufferings and perils

the buy of the ocean under the most appalling circumsteams, and with the prospect of destruction every hour. Her resoue was effected, sir, by men who could be moved the noblest impulses, and who, thus impelled themselves, encountered extraordinary risks and dangers.

The ship Three Bells, though not first in the rescue, may appropriately be named first, because she was a minimal ship. Though this ship was leading a ship was leading as the ship was the s provisions, herneble-hearted commander and his crew lay gethes shattered wreck, straining every nerve for the rescu their fellow-men; and all the accounts testify that mothing could exceed the tenderness and kindness with which those who were rescued were treated on board of

The barque Kilby was American, and was the first in the resour. She, too, had been storm-tossed and disabled in part; yet for two days her gallant commander and crew lay by the wreck of the San Francisco, and were then only parted from it by the irresistible force of the ocean. For two days more they cruised about amidst asstorm y sea in search of her; and even now that vessel is a wamaerer amidst the perils of that stormy element; though, happily, many of those who were rescued by her money their countrymen and friends.

The conduct of the officers and crew of the ship Antarc-

Other Governments, sir, recognise and reward such services as these. Very lately Captain Nye, of the mail and rewarded by the British Government, in a most li-Bees and grateful spirit, for a similar rescue of British seilors. It becomes us, sir, to follow, with at least equal steps, this example; and as our Executive does not possees the necessary means and authority, Congress should supply them. This will be both just and wise, as reg great merit, and encouraging others to similar raffanstry hereafter.

Batraordinary heroism and humanity will always reconvertise just applause of men. But the public authority should farnish an enduring evidence of the public appro-lation, and such memorials of it as may be honorable to the Government and cherished by the brave men who so richly earned them.

The committee will of course obtain authentic and officontinformation before they report for the final action of

I have said nothing, sir, of the officers and crew of the limst ship. All accounts agree as to the unblenching commage, the active skill, and patient perseverance of her commander, who seems to have displayed all the qualitimes which give honor to the character of the American seamon. What shall be due to him, his officers, and crew, and the destitute troops on board his ship, will doubtless he properly determined hereafter. The acknowledgment due to the rescuers, to be graceful, should be as prompt Mr. SHIELDS. If the Senator will permit me, I will

state that I have just come from the War Department, and in relation to this matter. I have also prepared a resolution of inquiry for the purpose of ascertaining something authentic in relation to every thing connected with the matter, so that we may know not only on whom to bastow thanks, but where to afford relief. This is a matwhich properly belongs to the War Department. The men who were lost were soldiers, and the vessel was char-Small by the War Department, and the vessels sent in chemic information will be obtained from that Depart-Besraud that within two or three days he expects to have that and authentic information on the whole subject. With sent of the honorable Senator from Maryland, therefore, I wish to offer a resolution in lieu of his, calling for information. I do not wish to enter into any comment and we cannot yet act wisely, or perhaps justly, toworks the parties engaged in the rescue of this vessel, or those who are accused of neglecting to rende colineat aid, without having the whole authentic informa-

The PRESIDENT. The proposition of the Senator Thus Illinois is to strike out all after the word "resolved"

That the Secretary of War be requested to lay before the Security all authentic information which he may possess in re-lation to the wreck of the steamer San Francisco, and the losses of this and property occasioned by this disaster, the means emgiven by the Department and others for the rescue of the ad passengers, the number and situation of the surservers, and thenature and extent of the relief required by their

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. President, the considerations which The Senator from Illinois has stated to the Senate had prevented me from submitting a resolution for the direct som of the Senate. I made this a resolution of inquiry in its character, so that from its terms the committee world he cashled to make just such inquiries as the Senathe proposes the Secretary of War shall be asked to make. Le not therefore see that it is very important : however. I were quite willing, if the Senate is anxious to substitute arms for the other, that it may do so.

Mr. GWIN. I hope the resolution will pass as offered by the Senator from Maryland. The subject that he proposses to refer to the Naval Committee has reference to tary of War has already taken the initiative on this sub-Brancisco. The Committee on Naval Affairs had this sub- does seem to me that both parliamentary courtesy and pent mader consideration this morning, and has instructed propriety require that the subject should go to the Comone of its members to introduce a resolution from the mittee on Military Affairs. per take to the action of the committee, I am glad to see the Senator from Maryland entertains the same opinion, and may touch delicate questions of all and may touch committee covering the subject in the one under considethe Senator from Maryland entertains the same opinion, and may touch delicate questions of obligation upon the

There are several acts of legislation which, it seems to me, are required at the hands of Congress in connexion gards the conduct of the different officers whom we intend to honor. It is presumed—and I hope very properly preby the Committee on Military Affairs, others by the ation of the conduct of those on board of the vesmis who relieved the sufferers on board the San Francismake the Naval Committee. There ought to be pensions severe judgment of the Senate. In connexion, however, with that, I must say, whatever may be the liability of the vessel, I cannot withhold here the common opinion The United States. There ought to be additional pay which was expressed towards its captain, Capt. Watkins.

I have been informed by an officer of the army that They drew six months' pay in advance to give themselves amoutate; all of which is lost, as well as their private The Government ought to provide for these fered under such circumstances and with such purposes there should appear to be any difference of opinion in the they have thus sustained. I hope the Senator from Illi-Mr. Shireds) will confine his resolution to those whether the resolution be directed to the Committee on mertions which properly pertain to the action of the Maval Affairs or to the Committee on Military Affairs. Military Committee, in granting extra pay; and that the charge chairman of the Committee on Commerce will take charge think that the consideration should at all influence us that the specific purpose of ascertaining the facts of the case. Our comsees and crews of those ships. I think that the subject mittee can obtain the information wherever it should be. State Committee on Pensions will be instructed to report a Military Committee should have been named, I would not, for one, alter the resolution from what it is as offered.

Mr. SHIELDS. I have not the slightest objection to Next the resolution of the Senator from Maryland go to the The resolution which I was about to offer is one fairs to inquire what would be a proper acknowledgment different, because it is one covering the whole ground, and is one asking for authentic information in ed with them. If the Committee on Naval Affairs find that estion to the whole matter. Now, sir, I intended, in There a single observation either of thanks or otherwise, we have full information before us-first, as to the patore of the disaster : second, as to the relief which the rument was able to furnish-and I understand that Government was not able to furnish relief very promptly for the want of the proper kind of vessels— as to the relief afforded by private individuals; as to the number who were lost by the disaster; as to the survivors, their condition, and the charac-of the relief to be extended to them.

were lest by this terrible shipwreck.

It is only information for this body that I ask for from the proper Department, now engaged in the collection of that information, having sent to the city of New York for officers, who are to be here in a day or two, to give all the information. That is all the object I have n view. It does not conflict with the resolution of the honorable Senator from Maryland; but I do not wish to commence bestowing thanks or basing any action of this body upon newspaper report merely. I do not think any Senator ought to rise up here and single out any one individual, although I agree fully with the Senator from California that if these reports be true, and this gallant Englishman, at the risk of his own life and vessel, lay by the side of the San Francisco for days and rescued the survivors, he is entitled to the thanks of this country. But let us ascertain that fact authentically; let us not fiv off here, as we often do, without having one particle correct, authentic information. How can we distribute justice among these men, or how can we afford relief properly, without information? I want information imrediately, and an officer is expected in this city to-night they will, do what is requisite with great ability.

Mr. MASON. I understand that the two resolutions

are entirely distinct. The resolution offered by the Senator from Maryland provides for some appropriate testimonial on the part of Congress in honor of the gallantry and humanity which led those three vessels to the rescue of the survivors on the wreck. The object of the Senator from Illinois—and a very proper object—is to inquire and ascertain the facts, and see what other duties or obligaions may devolve upon the Government.

Now, sir, I respond entirely and fully to what has fallen from the Senator from Maryland. This is an extraordi-nary occasion, and one which should be extraordinarily met. We have not full accounts, but we have facts which none can dispute, showing that the officers of these three vessels, although themselves disabled by the same storm, imperiled their own lives and the vessels committed to them in order to make this rescue; and they did it galantly, by perseverance for days and nights. But I want to say this also: it strikes me forcibly that the resolution of the honorable Senator from Maryland should be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; not from any choice between the two committees, but because it is | solution : the appropriate duty of that committee to make this acknowledgment. The San Francisco was chartered by the War Department, it was filled with troops of the United States belonging to the War Department; the loss has occurred to that branch of the "military service, and the acknowledgment, it seems to me, should come from it. The Secretary of War, under whose guidance this vessel was chartered and the troops prepared to be sent abroad, I should think, would feel, very deeply feel, it a duty on his Department, and on him personally, to be responsible for that matter. The resolution of the Senator from Maryland goes only to some appropriate testimonial for the gallantry of the officers and crews of the three ships; and, with his permission, I would suggest that the reference should be changed to the Committee on Military Affairs, as properly belonging to that committee, instead of the Committee on Naval Affairs.

I would say, further, in reference to what has fallen from the Senator from California, that it will devolve upon his Government, and ought to devolve upon it, to make full remuneration for the losses which have been sustained by the officers and troops who were on board that ship, and who were survivors; and to provide, so far as may be right and proper, for those who are left and the families those who are deceased. But we must do it with care and judgment, to avoid a bad precedent hereafter. I am willing to go as far as any gentleman can go in making a suitable testimonial. I therefore think that if the honorble Senator from Illinois will withdraw his resolution for the present, and permit the resolution of the Senator from Maryland to go to his committee, it will be the proper reference. I say again I do not suggest this from a desire to make any distinction between the two committees, but because it seems to me that the subject belongs

nore properly to the one than to the other. Mr. GWIN. I have no pride about this subject, and no desire except to do justice to those parties for whose bene-fit the resolution is intended; but I will state to the Senator from Virginia that he is mistaken in regard to the chartering of the San Francisco. The War Department shipped on board of it a portion of a regiment and provisions; but the vessel was open to other passengers, and received other passengers, and had other passengers on board. - The great loss has fallen, it is true, on the officers from that regiment, because a majority of the pas-sengers belonged to it. The vessel, I repeat, was not chartered by the War Department; it was open to other passengers as other vessels were; but inasmuch as this pertains to the ocean, and the subject has been brought before the Committee on Naval Affairs this morning by other members—not by myself—I thought it was an appropriate reference, or I should have said nothing on the resolution of the Senator from Maryland. But as this is one of the smallest portions of the duty imposed on Congress in consequence of this disaster-the making a complimentary return to the officers and crews of those ships who gallantly rescued our officers-it is a matter immate-

rial to me where it shall go.

Mr. SHIELDS. It is wholly so to me; and I hope the Senator from Virginia will permit the resolution to remain as it stands. I agree with my honorable friend from Virginia that this matter properly belongs to the military department; but it matters very little to which committee it goes. I will therefore withdraw my amendment, and dependent proposition.

Mr. MASON. I understand that the Senator from Maryland has modified his resolution so as to make the reference to the Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. SHIELDS. I hope not. Mr. MASON. I hope, with all respect to the chairman

f that committee, that it will be done.

Mr. PEARCE. It is of course a subject indifferent to ne whether the resolution goes to the Committee on Military Affairs or the Committee on Naval Affairs. I believe that I should have acquiesced in the suggestion of the Senator from Virginia, but I find that the Senator from Illinois, who is chairman of that committee, does not wish it to go to his committee; for that reason I decline to alter the reference.

Mr. BUTLER. I desire to make a single suggestion. understand from the Senator from Illinois, the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, that he has had a communication on this subject with the War Department. He has stated so to the Senate. It then appears to the Senate that the War Department has already instituted inquiry upon this subject, and the information to be communicated must come through that Department; and when that much is announced to us-that the Secrethat we are to receive the information; and it therefore

of the owners of the vessel; and I have no doubt that it will show a very different degree of merit, so far as rethis great disaster, some of which should be ma-to honor. It is presumed—and I hope very properly pre-ty the Committee on Military Affairs, others by the mattee on Commerce, and what should be done in cated; but how far the owners of the vessel may be subject to liability I cannot undertake to say. That will depend upon the information furnished, and upon the dieses who have been saved from the wreck. casion were the best language that can be pronounced on any occasion so far as regards himself.

Mr. BADGER. Mr. President, I have only one regret in connexion with this subject-that on a resolution of-Senate. I do not think it a matter of much se persons in the service of the United States who With regard to the relative amount of merit, what may be the relative meritorious services rendered by the different persons connected with the achievement, there is

nothing in the resolution prejudging it. It is a simple direction to the Committee on Naval Afof those services in respect to the several parties connectno acknowledgment is due to any one of them, they will therefore, though in itself not a matter of much importance, to pass the resolution as it is offered.

After some remarks from Mr. HOUSTON, the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. SHIELDS. I now offer my proposition as a distinet resolution, and hope it will be considered at this

ime.

The resolution, as inserted above, was considered by unanimous consent and agreed to.

MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS.

The following memorials and petitions were presented and appropriately referred:

By Mr. GWIN: From the officers and privates of the
1st regiment of New York volunteers during the war with Mexico, asking to be allowed extra pay while on service in California.

Also, from the Sacramento, Auburn, and Nevada Railroad Company, asking the right of way and a donation By Mr. PETTIT: From the Ohio Falls Marine Railroad

ompany, asking the aid of the United States in the con-

struction of a marine railway for the transportation of steamboats around the falls of the Ohio.

By Mr. HAMLIN: From the heirs of Joseph Pomroy, sking to be allowed arrears of pension. By Mr. BRODHEAD: From the inspectors of the cus-

oms and agents of the revenue at Philadelphia, asking n increase of compensation By Mr. FOOT: From Capt. Hiram B. Sawyer, of the navy, asking to be restored to the pension roll and allow-

ed arrears of pension. By Mr. HUNTER: From the Southern Baptist Convention, asking that stipulations may be made with foreign countries to secure religious toleration to American

By Mr. MASON: From R. M. Walsh, asking compenation for his services as charge d'affaires at Mexico. By Mr. JONES, of Iowa: From the administrator of Dickerhoff, a soldier in the war with Mexico, asking a ension on account of a disease contracted by that soldier while in service.

By Mr. DODGE, of Iowa: From E. Mayne, county

udge of Van Buren county, in Iowa, asking that the ounty may be reimbursed an amount of money expended or the benefit of the United States. A large mass of documents were taken from the files

on motion of Senators, and again referred to appropriate REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. PETTIT, From the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the resolution of the Senate of the 4th instant, directing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire whether the Hon. SAMUEL S. PHELPS is en titled to a seat in the Senate of the United States, submitted a report in writing, closing with the following re-

Resolved, That the Hon. SAMUEL S. PHELPS is entitled to retain his seat in the Sonate.

Mr. Deservation of the minority had also given its views, which he asked to have printed with the report, and that the subject be made the special order for Wednesday next; which was agreed to

The dissenting members of the committee are Mr. Bur-

MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. Mr. SHIELDS, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported bills of the following titles:

A bill to increase the present military establishment of the United States, and for other purposes.

A bill to regulate the pay and increase the efficiency of

the army, and for other purposes.

A bill to promote the efficiency of the army by retiring lisabled officers. Mr. DODGE, of Iowa, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the bill to grant to the State of Iowa the unsold and unappropriated public

lands remaining in that State, reported back the same without amendment. Also, from the same committee, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the proceedings of the meeting at Philadelphia of the soldiers of the war of 1812, and that they be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs: which was agreed to.

By Mr. JONES, of Iowa, from the Committee on Pensions: A bill for the relief of Pamela Brown, widow of Gen. Jacob Brown, accompanied by a report. PAY OF CLERKS.

By Mr. ADAMS, from the Committee on Retrench-

nent: A bill to amend the third section of the act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the year ending the 30th of June, 1854. [This amendment gives to clerks of the first class

salary of \$1,200, to those of the second class \$1,400, and to those of the third class \$1,600; and when vacancies occur it provides for promotions according to se Postmasters General to receive a salary of \$3,000 per

annum, and twenty per cent. additional pay to their present salary to the messengers, packers, laborers, and watchmen of the Executive Departments. The temporary clerks, when engaged on the same of similar work with any of the classes, are to be paid same

salary as such class.

The stamp and blank agent of the Post Office Department to receive same salary as is allowed to clerks of the

By Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Printing : A bill providing for the payment of the printing of the re-turns of the seventh census, and for the paper furnished

for said printing.

By Mr. CHASE, from the Committee on Patents: An dverse report on the petition of John Thomas.

CAPT. INGRAHAM.

Mr. GWIN, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred the joint resolution of the House of Representatives of thanks of Congress and the prepermit a vote to be taken upon the resolution of the Sena- sentation of a medal to Capt. Duncan N. Ingraham, reor from Maryland, and submit mine afterwards as an in- ported it back without amendment, and asked its immediate consideration.

Mr. BADGER having intimated that'he had an amendment to offer, the consideration was postponed until to

THE CENSUS. The following resolution, submitted by Mr. HAMLIN

from the Committee on Printing, was considered and Resolved. That there be printed for the use of the Senate

50,000 copies of a compendium of the Seventh Census, to be arranged by the Superintendent of the Census, embracing the population by towns and counties, the ratio tables of popula ion, tables of nativities, births, marriages, and deaths; of the leaf, dumb, blind, insane, and idiotic; of schools and colleges of aggregates of occupations, of churches, of newspapers, and libraries, and of agricultural products, with illustrative notes and comparative tables: Provided, The said compendium shall be printed in royal octavo form and not exceed 400 pages. SUFFERERS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO

On motion by Mr. SHIELDS, the joint resolution from the House of Representatives authorizing the appointment of a joint committee of the two Houses of Congress to onsider and report upon the form of an acknewledgment to the officers and crews of the several ships that rendered assistance to the passengers, officers, and crew of the steamer San Francisco, was laid on the table, and Mr. SHIELDS submitted the following, which was considered and agreed to: Resolved. That a committee of five members on the part of

the Senate be appointed to join such committee as may be ap-pointed on the part of the House of Representatives, to inquirand report in what form the acknowledgment of Congress and the gratitude of the nation may be most appropriately ex-pressed to those benevolent and courageous men who, under Providence, were the means of rescuing from death so many tizens of this republic. The following is the committee appointed by the Chair:

Messrs. Shields, Gwin, Pearce, Hamlin, and Everett. NEBRASKA AND SLAVERY

Mr. DIXON gave notice that when the bill to organize the Territory of Nebraska came up he should move a amendment, which he desired might be printed.

The amendment adds a new section to the effect that so much of the 8th section of the act of March 6th, 1820, for the admission of Missouri into the Union, &c., as de clares "that in all that territory ceded by France to the United states, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of 36° 30° north latitude, slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted, shall be forever prohibited," shall be to a construct of the parties of the part not be so construed as to apply to the territory contemplated by this act, or to any other territory of the United States; but that the citizens of the several States and Territories shall be as liberty to take and hold their slaves within any of the ter f the United States to be formed therefrom, as if the said act had never been passed.

NOTICE OF A BILL

By Mr. COOPER: A bill making a grant of land to the State of Pennsylvania for the purposes of internal improvement, and to establish and endow a normal school

SPECIAL ORDER.

Mr. CLAYTON rose and concluded his speech comnenced on Thursday last.

Mr. CASS rejoined, after which the subject, on motion y Mr. Gwin, was laid on the table.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some time spent therein, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication ion from the War Department, transmitting a report from the Deputy Quartermaster General, in compliance with a resolution of the House of the 3d instant, calling for "a statement of the expenses incurred by the United States in consequence of the impediments to the navigation of Red River." Referred to the Committee on Comnerce and ordered to be printed.

THE SUFFERERS ON THE SAN PRANCISCO. Mr. BISSELL asked the consent of the House to introduce a bill for the purpose of referring it to the Commit-

tee on Military Affairs. He said that it was a very important one, requiring immediate action, and he would read its title for the information of the House. It was, "a bill for the relief of the United States troops who were sufferers by the recent disaster to the steamship San Francisco."

He was sure there would be no obj No objection being made, the bill was read twice by its title, and then read in full, as follows:

Be it enacted, &c. That there shall be paid, under the di ection of the President, to each of the officers, non-commis sioned officers, musicians, and privates who, on the —— da of December, 1853, embarked at New York, under orders for California, on the steamship San Francisco, and who was on board that vessel on the occasion of her recent disaster at sea, a sum equal in amount to his pay and allowances for

And be it further enacted, That if any such officer, noncommissioned officer, musician, or private shall have died be-fore the passage of this act, from any cause consequent upon said disaster, his widow, if one survive him, and if not, then his children, if any there be, shall be paid the same sum to which he would otherwise have been entitled under the provisions of his act.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. CHANDLER asked the unanimous consent of the

House to read a resolution which he proposed to offer, and, no objection being made, the resolution was read as

Whereas information has been received that more than fivhundred citizens, many of them officers and soldiers of the ar-my of the United States, on board the steamship San Francisco, have been saved from death by the gallant, perilous, and merciful interposition of the officers and crew of the Brit-ish ship Three Bells, and of the American ship Antarctic and barque Kilby, after a severe gale on the Atlantic ocean, by which the San Francisco was utterly disabled and nearly two hundred persons had miserably perished:

And whereas it is becoming a Republic to cherish the lives of its citizens, and especially to make appropriate acknowledgments of the obligation conferred by those who, at the imminent peril of property and life, rescue from certain destruction the persons of those citizens, and particularly the special ser-vants of the nation: Be it resolved, (the Senate concurring,) That a joint specia

committee, to consist of nine persons on the part of the House of Representatives, and of —— persons on the part of the Senate, be appointed and instructed to inquire and to report in what form the acknowledgments of Congress and the gratical of the part of the serious of the titude of the nation may be most appropriately expressed t those benevolent and courageous men who, under Providence were the means of rescuing from death so many citizens of

Mr. CUTTING asked Mr. CHAMPARA whether he would have any objections to send to the committee which shall be charged with the consideration of his resolution a re solution that they shall make a further inquiry and report to the House whether it is not unbecoming this Gov-ernment to allow the owners and masters of the merchant ships which were hove to to lose their time in taking or board these unfortunate men, and in transporting them to a place of safety, without awarding to them the same reasonable compensation that would be paid if a bargain had been made? Whether it is fitting that this Republic should have her officers and soldiers transported gratis. without paying a proper remuneration? He asked the gentleman whether, if he read the resolutions, he would adopt them as his own? He did this not from his own suggestion, but in conformity with letters received from citizens of New York, and in deference to those gentle-

men. The resolutions are as follows: Resolved, That the said joint committee be requested to in reported, that the said joint committee be requested to inquire and report whether some provision, by way of pension or otherwise, ought not to be made in favor of the widows, or, if no widows, in favor of the minor children of those officers and men who were embarked by order of the Government or heard of the contraction. ment on board of the steamer San Francisco, and who were deprived of life while in the service of their country by the perils they encountered after leaving the port of New York, on their way to California. And that the said committee do also inquire and report whether an indemnity ought not to be provided in favor of those officers and men in the service of the Government whose baggage and effects were lost or damaged on board of the said steamer by the accidents and peril of the voyage.

Resoived, That the committee do also report to this House

some suitable mode of testifying to Capt. Creighton, of the British ship Three Bells, and to his officers and crew, and to the masters, officers, and crews of the barque Kilby and the ship Antarctic, the appreciation by Congress of their humane, persevering, and gallant conduct, by which, under Providence, so many American citizens were rescued by them from the wreck of the San Francisco.

Resolved, That the said committee do also inquire and report whether compensation or indemnity ought not to be made by this Government to the owners and masters of the ships Three Bells, Antarctic, Lucy Thompson, and barque Kilby, for services rendered and for losses and expenses incurred by them in saving and transporting to a place of safety the offi-cers and men in the service of the United States who were rescued from the wreck of the aforesaid steamer.

Mr. FLORENCE also submitted some resolutions in re gard to this subject, as follows: Whereas, a distressing calamity has occurred in the disaste

which befell the steamer San Francisco on her recent voyage to California, in which vessel was being conveyed officers and troops of the United States, with their families, and by which disaster nearly or quite two hundred souls found a watery grave: and Whereas it is right and proper, when such an event happens,

eliciting, as it has, the sympathy of the whole nation for the sufferers, and appalling entire communities by the painful suspense which for a period of ten days has hung over the fate of those on board the ill-starred vessel, that suitable acfate of those on board the ill-starred vessel, that suitable action should be had by an American Congress, in consideration of the gallant and heroic conduct of those who, governed by such company to the actual construction and equipment the generous impulses of brave hearts, risked their lives and periled the safety of the vessels in which they were embarked miles, such holder of stock, upon the production of such certification of the Government, shall for awful and painful death which stared them in the face, and to which, but for such providential intervention, they would have soon been hastened : Be it

Resolved, die. That the sincere and heartfelt thanks of an American Congress are extended to those gallant men who commanded the American barque Kilby, the British ship Three Bells, and the American ship Antarctic for their heroic, humane, and gallant conduct as displayed in their untiring efforts to restore to their friends and country the unfortunate persons for whose safety the liveliest interest has been felt wherever the disaster to the steamship San Francisco has

been made known. Resolved, That the President of the United States be authorized and requested to have suitable medals struck of commemorative of this sad event, to be presented, with copies of these resolutions, to all who were engaged in the act of safety afforded to the officers and troops of the United States. Resolved, That in view of the sad effects of the calamity to the San Francisco, and the pecuniary loss sustained by the survivors and those who met a watery grave, the Secretary of War is instructed to afford such relief to the survivors and their families as shall, in his judgment, seem to be just and proper; and report such action at an early period to this

Mr. CHANDLER accepted the addition suggested by Mr. CUTTING.
Mr. FAULKNER asked the gentleman from Pennsylva-

nia to allow all these propositions to be referred at once to the Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. CHANDLER wanted a special committee, as the Committee on Military Affairs had nothing to do with the Mr. FAULKNER said it was already in some form be

fore the Committee on Military Affairs, and the proposi tion of Mr. Curring directly called for the action of that Mr. CHANDLER thought it necessary that the subject

should go to a joint committee, and there was no joint committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. BISSELL desired to make a single remark. He vished to say that it was clothing and food that these poor

fellows want; and they want them now. They arrived in New York without a change of clothing, with icicles dangling from their garments. They want food; they want clothing immediately. They have drawn three months' extra pay and used it up. He thought that when they had attended to the matter of supplying them with food and clothing, then would be the or resolutions for giving medals and thanks.

After much conversational debate as to the most appro-riate reference, during which Mr. Curring withdrew his solutions, and Mr. CHANDLER called for the previous estion on his resolution-Mr. WALBRIDGE moved that all of the resolution

resented touching this question be referred to the Comittee on Military Affairs. He said that it was his purpose to have requested that they be sent to the Commit-tee on Commerce, and therefore had prepared a couple of resolutions with that view, which he could assure gentlemen were infinitely briefer than any of those which had been presented. Mr. LETCHER objected to the reading of these reso

Mr. WALBRIDGE asked Mr. CHANDLER to allow the esolutions to be attached to his, by way of amendment. Mr. CLINGMAN rose to a point of order, that this roceeding was out of order, the previous question having

The SPEAKER sustained the point of order, and said no further proposition could be received nor any debate permitted. The previous question was seconded, and the question was then taken on the adoption of the resolution of Mr. CHANDLEB, and it was decided in the affirmative.

DUTY ON RAILROAD IRON. The House then resumed the consideration of the folwing resolution, submitted on the 3d instant by Mr. CHURCHWELL, the question being on the motion of Mr HAMILTON that it be laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to report a bill giving a credit of four years to rail-road companies to pay the duty on iron imported by them for railroad purposes.

And the question being taken, the resolution was laid on the table by the following vote: Year 98, nays 92.

HOMESTEAD BILLS.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, moved to suspend the rules so as to enable him to introduce the following resolutions: Resolved, That House bill No. 1, being "a bill to encour age agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, and all other branches of industry, and for granting to every man who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land out of the public domain, upon condition of occupancy and cultivation of the same for the period herein specified, and to graduate and reduce the price of public lands;" and House bill No. 37, "a bill duce the price of public lands;" and House bill No. 37, "a bill to encourage agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and all other branches of industry, by granting to every man who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land out of the public domain, upon condition of occupancy and cultivation of the same for the period herein specified," be the special order of the day in the order in which they were reported to the House for Tuesday, the 14th of February next, and for each succeeding day (private bill days excepted) until disposed of.

Resolved, That all debate on said special order or bills shall terminate in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union at three o'clock P. M. on Tuesday, the 21st of February next, when the House shall proceed to vote on the pendary next, when the House shall proceed to vote on the pend-ing amendments and such as may be offered to said bills, after which the committee shall rise and report to the House.

The motion to suspend the rules was decided in the afrmative: Yeas 128, nays 53. Mr. JONES then submitted his resolutions, and they were agreed to.

BRANCH OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY. Mr. ZOLLICOFFER submitted the following resolu-

ion, which was not agreed to: Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency and practicability of establishing a branch of the Military Academy of the United States at the Hermitage, in the State of Tennessee.

STEAM FRIGATE BILL. Mr. ZOLLICOFFER also submitted the following reso-

Resolved. That House bill No. 52, entitled "a bill to au thorize the construction of six first-class steam frigates, and for other purposes," be made the special order of the day in the Committee of the Whole for Thursday, the 19th day of January instant, and for each succeeding day thereafter, (private bill days excepted,) till the same shall be concluded. Mr. BOCOCK stated that this resolution was offered at

House. He could give good reasons why this bill should be made the special order.

Mr. HOUSTON regretted that the resolution did not contain some limitation as to the time of debate. The House knew that when this kind of debate arose; every

thing else was excluded.

nis request, and he hoped it would be concurred in by the

sert in the resolution a provision limiting the debate; but discussion could be stopped at any time the House might desire to terminate it The question was then taken, and the resolution was

BOCOCK expressed himself perfectly willing to in-

PUBLIC LANDS.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted :

Whereas, in the opinion of this House, the true policy the Government of the United States, in disposing of the pub-lic lands, requires that they should be disposed of in such manner as best to facilitate the settlement thereof and the commercial interests of the nation; and whereas, in the judgment of this House, both of these important ends will be best attained by granting donations of land to actual settlers, and by making such appropriations thereof to aid in the construction of such railroads as are of a leading national character, as may come clearly within the exercise of the constitutional powers of the General Government, to which class of railroads we think those belong which shall extend from the States lying on the east side of the Rocky mountains to those which are or hereafter may be organized on the west side of said mountains: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to the manner as best to facilitate the settlement thereof and the

House embracisg the following features, to wit:

1st. To provide for the prosecution of such surveys by the General Government of railroad routes to commercial points in the States and Territories on the west side of the Rocky mountains as may already have been commenced, and such additional surveys as may be necessary to determine the pracadditional surveys as may be necessary to determine the prac-ticability of constructing one or more railroads of the charac-ter above described, and for the completion of such surveys to the perfection and establishment of railroad lines perma-nently, not exceeding three in number, on the most practica-

ble, suitable, and direct routes aforesaid. 2d. Te provide for a grant by donation of one hundred and sixty acres of land, to be selected in quarter sections, equal to four quarter sections out of each three sections, to each actual settler, within forty miles on each side of the railroads here-inafter mentioned, in such manner as the President may direct, with the proper restrictions as to the time of settlement and cultivation, the character of persons who may avail them-selves of such grants, and the mode of perfecting such grants, and such other provisions as may be deemed necessary to give

and such other previsions as may be deemed necessary to give each settler a permanent homestead.

3d. To provide for the incorporation of companies upon such conditions as shall enable them to avail themselves of the provisions hereinafter named, one or more on each of said lines of railroads. No one company, however, to be incorporated for the construction of less than one hundred miles of road, and for the whole extent of such road or roads to be laid off into divisions of one hundred miles each.

4th. To provide that the shares of stock in each of said companies shall be \$300 each; that when any holder of a share of said stock shall produce the proper certificates necessary to show that he has paid in eash, or its bona fide equivalent, the full amount thereof; that the same has been applied by such company to the actual construction and equipment

sengers of the San Francisco, by which act of daring and praiseworthy humanity five hundred souls were saved from an acres of land upon any of the unoccupied land hereinafter appropriated to that purpose, and in the manner and subject to the restrictions hereinafter provided.

5th. To provide for the free grant to such companies of the

right of way for such railroad or roads throughout the whole extent thereof over the public domain of sufficient width for a double track road; and also for reserving at least sufficient a double track road; and also for reserving at least sufficient width of land along such railroad or roads for a free common wagon road, of such construction as Congress may at any time hereafter provide for, with the privilege of crossing such railroad or roads therewith at any points which may be found necessary; and requiring such company or companies to construct the necessary crossings, and to provide for such other reservations as the public interest may require.

6th. To provide for the surveying into townships, sections, and quarter sections, in the manner in which public lands are now surveyed, of the public lands, to the distance of at least

now surveyed, of the public lands, to the distance of at lea forty miles on each side of such right of way and reservations, and of the reservation of every sixteenth section for schools; and also for such other reservations for educational and such other purposes as the public interests may require, in con-formity with the present policy of the Government in these

7th. To provide for the application of the pre-emption laws to that portion of the said lands, forty miles each side of said railroad or roads, which shall not have been designated by the President for donation to actual settlers, as herein above pro-vided, for the protection of the rights of such of the stock-holders in each of said companies as shall by actual settlement and improvement thereon entitle themselves to a preemption claim; as also the rights of such pre-emptors as may have settled upon the residue, or every third quarter-section thereof herein reserved by the United States.

8th. To provide for the location upon one hundred and sixty eres of said land, so surveyed, forty miles on each side of said railroad or roads, to be selected in quarter-sections, equal to four quarter-sections out of each three sections, of each land warrant issued upon each share of railroad stock as above provided, in such manner as the President may direct, with the proper provisions for the protection of the interests and rights of those who may entitle themselves to preference on such location by virtue of their pre-emption claims, as above provided; each holder of such land warrants being authorized provided; each holder of such land warrants being authorized to locate the same upon any of the unoccupied portion of said lands set apart for this purpose only within the limits of the length of that division of said railroad or roads within which the certificates of stock shall have issued, upon which such warrants shall have been granted; and preference in such location shall be given in the order of the date of the payments of stock.

aforesaid of each of such shares of stock.

9th. To provide for the manner in which several companies upon each or either of said lines of railroads shall so consolidate the service thereof as best to subserve the public inte rests, and facilitate the movement and convenience of the rolling machinery thereon; and also for the reservation in the rolling machinery thereon; and also for the reservation in the General Government of the power to establish from time to time a maximum tariff of rates of toll within which said com-panies shall be limited; and also to provide for the reserva-tion of the perpetual right of the United States to transport their mails upon all such railroads free of charge.

10th. To provide for the extinguishment of Indian titles

slong such railroads, and upon the lands to be surveyed as ENGRAVING.

On motion by Mr. RIDDLE, from the Committee on

Resolved, That the Committee on Engraving be and they

Engraving,

are hereby authorized to contract for engraving and printing the maps and drawings accompanying the President's measage, for 230 copies; also the maps accompanying the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, for 500 extra copies: provided that the cost shall not exceed the sum of \$900.

On motion by Mr. LANE, of Indiana. Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of equalizing the salaries of dis-trict judges so as to increase the salary of the judge for the district of Ludians.

district of Indiana. MARINE DISASTERS

On motion by Mr. BISSELL, Resolved, That the Committee on Poreign Affairs be structed to inquire into the expediency of making an annual appropriation to enable the President of the United States to make suitable acknowledgments to captains of foreign vessels who may risk their ships and lives in succoring American

citizens in marine disasters. DUTY ON RAILBOAD IRON-AGAIN Mr. WENTWORTH submitted the following resolution Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be in altation with the Secretary of the Treasu-

ry and the Postmaster General, to inquire into the expediency of giving credit for duties upon railroad iron to such railroad companies as shall obligate themselves to pay for the same in the transportation of the mail, under such regulations and at such a rate of compensation as may be prescribed by the Post

Mr. FULLER moved that the resolution be laid on the table; which was agreed to: Yeas 91, nays 64.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to communicate to this House the progress that has been made in the improvement of the Rock Island and Des Moines Rapids under the appropriation of \$100,000 made by the last Congress; what plan of improvements has been adopted; how much work has been accomplished, and the character of such work; and what amount of said appropriation has been expended.

The rule requiring that resolutions calling for informa-tion from Heads of Departments shall lie over one day, and objection being made to the consideration of the resolution at the present time, it was accordingly laid over.

On motion by Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois,

Resolved, That the Committee on Indian Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law providing for a settlement of the claims growing out of the depredations committed by the Indians in the Black Hawk war of 1832. On motion by Mr. BENTON.

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be in-structed to inquire into the expediency of ceding to the city of St. Louis, for the purpose of a public park, forever, the ground on which the United States arsenal now stands.

On motion by Mr. STUART, of Michigan, Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be and it is hereby instructed to inquire into the necessity and propriety of constructing a custom-house and Government warehouse, with rooms suitable for holding the United States court therein, at the city of Detroit, in the State of Michigan; and that said committee report to this House the conclusion they may arrive at upon said inquiry, and what action if any it may arrive at upon said inquiry, and what action, if any, i may deem necessary and expedient for the public interest in

Mr. BASTMAN submitted the following resolution: Mr. SASTMAN submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be requested to inform this House what steps he has taken to prevent trespasses upon the pine lands in the State of Wisconsin and Territory of Minnesots, and whether or not he has appointed an agent or agents for that purpose, and if so, who are appointed and the date of their appointment, and under what provision of law are they appointed, and what instructions he has given them; and also communicate to this House any report that such agents have made in full; and what salary or compensation is naid to such agents, and how much money has been received by said agents from persons who have cut timber on the lands of the United States, by way of compounding such trespasses, and the expense incurred in collecting the same, and all the items thereof.

The resolution was laid over under the rule requiring

The resolution was laid over under the rule requiring all resolutions calling for information from the Heads Departments to lie over one day.

On motion by Mr. RICE, Resolved, That the Committee on Indian Affairs be instruct ed to inquire into the expediency of extinguishing the Indian title to the mineral lands lying east of the Mississippi river and west of Lake Superior, and to report by bill or otherwise

On motion by Mr. CROCKER, Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to commu-nicate to this House the report of a survey of Taunton river and New Bedford harbor, in the State of Massachusetts, or-

lered by the last Congress. On motion by the same, also Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to commu-nicate to this House the report of a survey of Scituate harbor and North river, in the State of Massachusetts, ordered by the last Congress.

CONSUL AT CONSTANTINOPLE. On motion by Mr. INGERSOLL, from the Committee

On motion by Mr. INGERSOLL, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs,

Revolved, That the President of the United States is requested to furnish this House, if in his opinion the public interest will allow, with all correspondence relating to the alleged violation of the rights and the forcible ejection from office of the acting Consul of the United States at Constantinople in July, 1851; also, the papers relative to the subsequent promotion of said acting Consul to the consulate of said city; also, the papers relating to an alleged refusal of Capt. Stringham, of the U. S. navy, to convey said Consul to his post in accordance with the instructions of the State and Navy Departments; and also the correspondence relative to the Departments; and also the correspondence relative to the removal of said Consul from his office.

Mr. CUTTING then submitted the resolutions which. at an earlier stage of the proceedings, he desired Mr. CHANDLER to accept as an addition to that gentleman's resolutions in reference to the San Francisco disaster; and they were referred to the Committee on Military

FREEDOM OF THE SOIL.

Mr. SMITH, of New York, submitted the following preamble and resolutions:

1st. Whereas all the members of the human family, notwithstanding all contrary enactments and arrangements, have, at all times and in all circumstances, as equal a right to the soil as to the light and the air, because as equal a natural need of the one as of the others; and whereas this invariably equal

right to the soil leaves no room to buy, or sell, or give it

right to the soil leaves he foom to buy, or sell, or give it away:

Resolved, therefore, That no bill or proposition should find any favor with Congress which implies the right of Congress to dispose of the public lands, or any part of them, either by sale or gift.

2d. Resolved, That the duty of civil government in regard to public lands, and indeed to all lands, is but to regulate the occupation of them; and that this regulation should ever proceed upon the principle that the right of all parents the ceed upon the principle that the right of all persons t

3d. Resolved, That Government will have done but little to-ward securing the equal right to land until it shall have made essential to the validity of every claim to land both the fact that it is actually possessed, and the fact that it does not exceed in quantity the maximum which it is the duty of Government to prescribe.

4th. Resolved, That it is not because land monopoly is the

most efficient cause of inordinate and tyranuical riches on the one hand, and of dependant and abject poverty on the other; and that it is not because it is therefore the most efficient cause of that inequality of condition so well-high fatal to the spread of democracy and christianity that Government is cilied on to abolish it; but it is because the right, which this mighty agent of evil violates and tramples under fool, is among those clear, certain, essential particularity and by mighty agent of evil violates and tramples under fool, is among those clear, certain, essential, natural rights which it is the province of Government to protect at all hazards, and irrespective of all consequences

On motion by Mr. HIBBARD, the preamble and resolutions were laid on the table.

NEW YORK ASSAY OFFICE.

Mr. WALKER submitted the following resolution: Mr. WALKER Submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be and is
hereby requested to report to this House whether the assay
office now in the course of construction in the city of New
York is of sufficient capacity for the coinage of gold and silver; and if so, whether, in his opinion, it would be convenient and proper for Congress to authorize such coinage at the said Objection being made to the consideration of the reso-

lution, it lies over one day, as calling on the Head of a Department for information.

STEAMSHIP SAN FRANCISCO. On motion by Mr. WALBRIDGE,

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be in-structed to have prepared a joint resolution extending the thanks of Congress to Capt. Creighton, of the British ship Three Bells, and to the commanders of the barque Kilby and ship Antarctic, for their humane and generous conduct in res-cuing the officers and crew of the mail steamer San Francisco on the ocean, at the imminent hazard of their lives and those who noted under their command.

Resolved, That the committee, by bill or otherwise, report

the necessary legislation making provision by the Govern-ment of the United States to indemnify the losses incurred by the commanders and owners of the vessels above named in their endeavors to save the lives of the officers and soldiers of the United States army from the wreck of the steamer San Francisco, and to inquire into the propriety of granting some testimonials of approbation to the commanders, officers, and crows of the Three Bells, Kilby, and Antarctic.

COLLECTOR BRONSON AND MR. CUSHING'S LETTER. Mr. MAURICE submitted the following resolution:

Resolved. That the removal of Greene C. Bronson, late collector of the port of New York, by the Secretary of the Treasury, for the causes alleged in the correspondence between such Secretary and the said Bronson, and the recently published letter of the Attorney General of the United States to lished letter of the Attorney General of the United States to a citizen of Massachusetts in relation to the design of the Government to "crush out" a particular sentiment of political action, were and each of them was a gross infringement of the sacred principle of State rights, and an attempt on the part of the Federal Government to control or influence the free exercise of the elective franchise by the people of sovereign States, and as such deserves the disapprobation and censure

of this House.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire and report whether any legislation is neces-sary to preserve from future violation the inalienable right of ne citizens of the several States to conduct their separate tate elections in their own way, unawed and uninfluenced by

the interference of Federal officers in such elections. Mr. WALSH proposing to debate the resolutions, they e over under the rule

INTERNATIONAL LAW. Mr. LYON submitted the following resolution, which, on his own motion, was referred to the Committee on For

Resolved, That the sentiments of his excellency the President, as set forth in his inaugural address, in respect to the right of every American citizen, in any part of the world, to the protection of the United States Government, and the great principles of international law enunciated in the correspondence of Secretary Marcy with the Chevalier Hulsemans, are hereby recognised and affirmed, and that whenever a pro-per occasion occurs the same ought to be applied and en-

Mr. WHEELER submitted the following resolution: Resolved, That the Scoretary of War be requested to communicate to this House for what reasons the appropriation of